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social reform. The year 1912-13 was an eventful period for Great Britain in respect to legislation affecting the lives of the working classes. It saw the passage of a number of important acts,—the Shops Act, the National Insurance Act, and the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, which, extorted by a combination of miners threatening to cut away the basis of our national life, extended the principle of the minimum wage to the chief staple industry of the country; it witnessed the beginning of insurance against unemployment, and of the decasualization of labor by the operation of the Board of Trade Labor Exchanges; and it was a period of widespread industrial unrest accompanied by a general rise in wages. Hence, Prof. W. J. Ashley, in the introduction which he contributes, has been able to write an exceptionally interesting general summary of the main movements in the field of social progress. The bulk of the book consists of a round dozen of more detailed essays on such subjects as the Census of 1911, Land and Housing, Wages and Cost of Living, Education, Pauperism and National Insurance. In each case facts and statistics are presented in a convenient form; the matter is well selected and well arranged, and theories are avoided. The index might perhaps with advantage be fuller. The volume, as will be seen, is concerned solely with social progress in Great Britain. It is to be hoped that in time Messrs. Nelson may see their way to enlarging their scope and providing us with a yearly record of legislative and philanthropic activity in the principal countries of the world, for, as a work of reference, such a volume would be a weapon of great value in the cause of the ethical advance of humanity.

SYDNEY WATERLOW.

London, England.

SOCIAL POWERS: Three Popular Lectures on the Environment, the Press, and the Pulpit. By Sir Henry Jones, LL.D., Litt.D. Glasgow: James Maclehose & Sons, 1913. Pp. 114.

The difference between the written word and the spoken word strikes you with great force in reading these lectures. Sir Henry Jones's radiant and inspiring personality makes it impossible for a lecture by him to be dull to listen to; the man is so much greater than his doctrines that even platitudes, from

his lips, are felt to be the platitudes of a prophet. And platitudes these lectures for the most part are; set down in black and white, they seem a little dull, though no doubt they were well suited to the popular audiences to whom they were addressed. Certainly there seems hardly enough stuff in them to have made it worth while issuing them as a book. But it is an admirable thing that a man of Sir Henry Jones's attainments and position should be willing to give lectures of this kind; few philosophers bring their philosophy into such close practical relation with their civic life.

J. B. PAYNE.

London, England.

THE UNEXPURGATED CASE AGAINST WOMAN SUFFRAGE. By Sir Almroth E. Wright, M.D., F.R.S. London: Constable & Co., 1913. Pp. xvi, 86.

Sir Almroth Wright says in his preface: "I bring forward these generalizations and definitions because they commend themselves to my diacritical judgment. In other words, I set them forth as results which have been reached after reiterated efforts to call up to mind the totality of my experience and to detect the factor which is common to all the individual experiences." The plain man in a similar case would say: "I can only speak as I know, but my experience leads me to believe." Obviously, the conclusions are unlikely to be of the first order of importance unless two conditions are fulfilled: the investigator's experience must be varied and far reaching, and he must know his personal bias and allow for it. But should he fail to make this allowance, he must be prepared for his readers to do so for him, perhaps even too liberally. It is not unlikely Sir Almroth Wright's readers will find themselves in this position.

The book is full of generalizations. The three following may be taken as examples of the diacritical method. (1) "Only two classes of men have woman's suffrage at heart, the crank and the complementary male." (2) "And so we find women who want everything for nothing and the wives who do not see they are beholden to man for anything . . . flock to the banner of woman's freedom, the banner of financial freedom for women at the expense of financial servitude for men." (3)